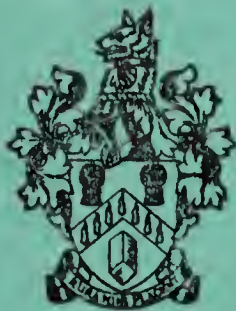


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CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Report

on the

*Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the District*

for the year ended

31st December, 1961

Medical Officer of Health

L. RICH, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

11 West Street, Congleton (Congleton 3655/6)

Public Health Inspector

P. KIRKHAM, M.P.H.I.A.

Engineer and Surveyor

R. O. BIRTWISTLE, M.I.MUN.E., A.R.I.C.S.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Congleton Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1961.

The estimated population has increased by 270 and now stands at 14,250. This increase is all the more significant in view of the fact that there has been a fall in the number of births and a rise in the number of deaths.

Attention is drawn to the almost total absence of mortality caused by infectious diseases which is a vastly different picture to that which pertained fifty years ago. The change has undoubtedly been brought about by the immense improvement in the social environment in which we live. Better housing, the abolition of overcrowding, pure water, milk and food, adequate refuse collection, water borne sewerage together with advances in medical science have all contributed to bringing this about. The ironical situation has been reached where some of the measures used to prevent disease are causing more morbidity than the actual diseases. I am certain however that the measures that have proved so successful in the

past should go on and medical science should direct its attention to producing safer and more effective vaccines with greater ease of administration. This has already been achieved in the case of Poliomyelitis where the vaccine given by mouth has supplanted that given by injection, not only because it is more pleasant to take but because it is actually a better immunological agent.

There was a considerable outbreak of measles during the year mainly affecting children below the age of 5 and in their first year at school. Promising trials have already been carried out with a Measles Vaccine and it is anticipated that soon a satisfactory agent will be available for prevention. Measles is not to be treated lightly, it causes a distressing illness with serious complications and although the mortality has been reduced by using antibiotics it still carries with it a too high mortality. It also causes serious dislocation in the schools.

The first of the Council's Flatlet Schemes was opened at Holmes Chapel towards the end of the year. There is no doubt that the need that this project was meant to deal with is being adequately fulfilled. The joint arrangements with the County Welfare Department have worked very smoothly. The help which the residents get from the Warden makes just that amount of difference to enable them to continue to run their homes independently. The interest shown in this scheme by the general public is such that a voluntary committee was set up to acquire funds for a television set for the Common Room. This was oversubscribed and funds are now available for other amenities.

The Health and Welfare of the Rural District is the joint effort of all the Departments under the authority of the Council. This report is an attempt to reflect all this although officially it is presented by your Medical Officer of Health. I am sure all the Officers and Staff would pay tribute to the leadership and guidance we receive from the Clerk. I would also draw attention to the very considerable contributions made in this report by the Public Health Inspector and by the Engineer and Surveyor.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

L. RICH,

Medical Officer of Health

Throughout this report the figures in brackets are for the year 1960 and are for purposes of comparison

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated Population 14250 (13980)

Births

Live Births :

		<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>	
Legitimate ...	...	186	(206)	101	(103)	85	(103)
Illegitimate	...	5	(3)	2	(1)	3	(2)

Still Births :

Legitimate	5	(5)	2	(4)	3	(1)
Illegitimate	2	(—)	—	(—)	2	(—)

Live birth rate per 1000 estimated average population mid-1961 14.0 (15.6)

Live birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population 17.4 (17.1)

Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 35.3 (23.3)

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total (live and still) births 18.7 (19.7)

Still birth rate per 1000 total population49 (.36)

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total population33 (.34)

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows :

	<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>	
Legitimate	1	(3)	1	(2)	—	(1)
Illegitimate	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births					5.2	(14.3)
Infantile mortality rate for England & Wales					21.4	(21.7)
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births					5.3	(14.5)
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births					—	(—)

Deaths

	<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>	
Deaths (all ages)	235	(214)	124	(107)	111	(107)
Death rate per 1000 estimated average population					10.8	(10.7)
Death rate for England and Wales per 1000 of population					12.0	(11.5)

The following table show the deaths from all causes within the district during the year.

CAUSE								Total	Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms of	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	—
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	6	11
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	18	11
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	16	10
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	12	7
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	—	8
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	4
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	87	44	43
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
TOTAL								235	124	111

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)
Other Maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)
Maternity Mortality rate per 1000 live and still births							0	(0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

At all our Infant Welfare Clinics there is considerable activity in the field of Preventive Medicine. We are well supported by the mothers who continue to bring their infants not only to enjoy the social atmosphere and the company of other mothers with similar problems but also because they are being advised and educated in a variety of ways. There is no doubt that we must equip ourselves with all these modern aids to education. In addition to demonstration material and film strip projector which we already have I am certain that the Division should possess a Movie Sound Projector. Many excellent films are offered to us, very often free, which would make excellent subjects for demonstrations at specially arranged sessions and which would have lasting effect.

In addition all our Clinics are supported by devoted bands of Voluntary Workers who give of their time and services unstintingly. We are indebted greatly to them as they contribute largely to producing the family atmosphere.

Welfare Centre	New cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor	Average per Clinic seen by Doctor
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5			
Goostrey	39 (28)	— (—)	— (—)	392 (351)	190 (135)	257 (173)	24 (24)	296 (242)	12.3 (10.0)
Holmes Chapel ...	51 (48)	— (—)	— (—)	545 (501)	137 (108)	94 (115)	23 (23)	338 (304)	14.6 (13.2)
Mow Cop	17 (17)	— (—)	— (—)	177 (200)	59 (23)	33 (24)	24 (24)	196 (212)	8.1 (8.8)
Rode Heath ...	18 (16)	— (—)	— (—)	251 (223)	92 (126)	164 (151)	24 (24)	144 (134)	6.0 (5.5)
Scholar Green ...	25 (33)	— (—)	— (—)	337 (342)	119 (152)	115 (100)	23 (24)	187 (209)	8.1 (8.7)

The names of the Health Visitors covering the Rural District are as follows :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Districts</i>
Dawson, H. M.	Bollin Grove, Prestbury	Goostrey
Barlow, M.	Tarnhow, Hazelshaw Lane, Brereton Tel. Holmes Chapel 2318	Church Hulme, Cranage, Tetton
Richardson, B.	White House, Crewe Road, Alsager Tel. Alsager 395	Church Lawton, Odd Rode. Smallwood
Smith, E. G.	15 Centre Court, Alsager Tel. Alsager 628	Betchton, Hassall
Williams, N. R.	Ivy Cottage, Snelson, Chelford	Hulme Walfield, Somerford, Somerf'd Booths, Swettenham, Twemlow
Slack, M. E.	Ashfields Clinic, Platt Ave., Sandbach Tel. Sandbach 970	Arclid, Brereton
Jacks, L.	Ashfields Clinic, Platt Ave., Sandbach Tel. Sandbach 970	Bradwall, Elton
Corbishley, M.	The Clinic, Park Street, Congleton Tel. Congleton 2095	Moreton-cum- Alcumlow, Newbold, Astbury

Home Nursing

The District Nurses serving our area act in double capacity as Home Nurses and Midwives. They are as follows :

V. SPENCER, Black and White Cottages, Astbury	Congleton 3451
G. MAGEE, Booth Bed Lane, Goostrey	Holmes Chapel 3244
L. B. BLUNSUM, 19 West Way, Holmes Chapel	Holmes Chapel 2226
H. BARRY, 2 Drenfell Road, Scholar Green	Kidsgrove 2929
I. HOYLE, 9 Offley Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 852
M. WAINWRIGHT, 87 Platt Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 256

We are constantly enlarging the items of nursing equipment available for assisting patients in their own homes.

The types of articles available are :

Wheel Chairs	Urine Bottles	Air Beds
Air Rings	Lift	Back Rests
Bed Pans	Bed Cages	Special Bed
Crutches	Rubber Sheets	Enuresis Blankets
Commodes		

We are also finding that the Disposable Sheets are invaluable for dealing with cases of incontinence. It is also possible in suitable cases to provide a “ Foul Washing ” service.

Births 1961

Hospital		Home		Private Nursing Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
124	4	71	1	—	—
(145)	(5)	(57)	(—)	(—)	(—)

It is satisfactory to note that this year the percentage of babies born at home has risen and that once again there has been no Maternal death.

Chiropody

The use of this service has grown enormously and the demand was so great that it has been found necessary to reduce the number of treatments after the first 6 monthly treatments to one treatment every two months. However, in exceptional cases where it is necessary to give the treatment more frequently it is possible to do this under the scheme.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Statistics

Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school children	5	(3)
School children	1	(5)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6	(8)
Reinforcing injections	134	(105)

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-school children	5	(3)
School children	—	(—)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	(3)
Reinforcing injections	3	

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus)

Pre-school children	191	(181)
School children	35	(8)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	226	(189)
Reinforcing injections	48	

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough)

Pre-school children	3	
School children	—	
	<hr/>	
	3	
Reinforcing injections	17	

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria, Tetanus)

Pre-school children	1	
School children	83	
	<hr/>	
	84	
Reinforcing injections	150	

Primary Vaccination

Pre-school children	...	...	...	107	(112)
School children	...	...	...	11	(6)
Adults	...	...	...	6	(8)
				<hr/> 124	<hr/> (126)

Re-Vaccination

Pre-school children	...	...	...	1	(—)
School children	...	...	...	6	(3)
Adults	...	...	...	17	(19)
				<hr/> 24	<hr/> (22)

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

It is not possible to separate the figures in respect of each County District and the table below shows the figures for the whole of South East Cheshire.

			<i>4th injections in 1961</i>	<i>Total 4th injections</i>	<i>3rd injections in 1961</i>	<i>Total 3rd injections</i>	<i>2nd injections in 1961</i>	<i>Total 2nd injections</i>	<i>1st injections in 1961</i>
Children born									
in 1943-61	...	...	1006	1006	1059	12139	1501	14811	1496
Persons born									
in 1933-42	...	...	32	32	331	4407	504	6619	513
Persons born before									
1933 up to the age of									
40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			<hr/> 49	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 174	<hr/> 906	<hr/> 393	<hr/> 1252	<hr/> 387
Totals			1172	1172	2254	20603	3390	26221	3400

Public Health Laboratory Service

A new laboratory has opened at Chester which we find more convenient than going to Manchester.

Ambulance and Sitting Case Car Transport

Satisfactory cover for all types of cases is carried out by Ambulance Stations in Congleton, Sandbach and Alsager. During the year all commitments were satisfactorily fulfilled and a 24 hour service maintained.

No complaints were received during the year.

All drivers and attendants are trained in first aid and are in possession of the St. John First Aid Certificate.

Domestic Help Service

Statistics

Home Helps employed during 1961

Full time	—	(—)
Temporary	42	(24)
Casual	8	(6)
	<hr/> 50	<hr/> (30)

Home Helps employed at 31st December, 1961

Full time	—	(—)
Temporary	31	(17)
Casual	4	(1)
	<hr/> 35	<hr/> 18

Applications received during 1961

Confinement	6	(—)
Sickness	10	(5)
Tuberculosis	—	(—)
Aged and Infirm	10	(6)
	<hr/> 26	<hr/> (11)

Cases attended during 1961

Confinement	3	(—)
Sickness	14	(8)
Tuberculosis	—	(—)
Aged and Infirm	33	(27)
	<hr/> 50	<hr/> (35)

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

I am indebted to Mr. Delwyn G. Davies, Engineer and Manager of the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board for the following information.

This district is supplied partly from the Mow Cop borehole, partly from the Delamere boreholes via the Allostock Booster, partly by a bulk supply purchase from the Macclesfield and District Water Board, but mainly by River Dee water from the Hurleston Works supplied through a 12 inch main which has recently been completed between Tetton and Holmes Chapel. A small amount of Hurleston water is also taken into the southern part of the district through Alsager where it may be mixed with a proportion of borehole water from Bearstone. The quantities taken from the Macclesfield and District Water Board and from the Delamere boreholes have been reduced recently on completion of the 12 inch main referred to above.

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. R. O. Birtwistle, for the reports on Sewerage and Housing.

SEWERAGE

Parish of Betchton

Malkins Bank—In last year's report it was stated that the small treatment works at Malkins Bank were overloaded due to the rapid expansion of the box making works. During the year parts of the plant have been overhauled and the area has been surveyed. As a result of this, survey plans have been prepared of proposed extensions needed to cope with the increased sewage discharge. The scheme will include the provision of an additional settling tank, Filter and Humus tanks. Access to the site is difficult, due to the relative levels of the land and highway—an adequate approach road is necessary when the extensions take place.

Hassall Green—Building in this small nucleus of development has been comparatively extensive having regard for the size of the original group of houses. As in so many cases throughout the country, drainage has been conveyed to existing sewers which have been adequate, but the septic tanks have eventually become incapable of producing the required standard of effluent.

The location of these tanks is unsuitable—they are too close to the School and Council's houses. Draft plans have been prepared for the laying of an intercepting sewer which will convey the sewage from the three tanks to a proposed new treatment works in a field adjoining the River Wheelock lying to the north of the development.

Parish of Church Hulme

Further progress was made during the year with the preparation of the scheme for the laying of the sewers and construction of treatment works based on re-circulation of the effluent, and plans of the proposals were deposited with the Ministry for consideration. There being no opposition to the scheme, the Ministry held an investigation on 20th June, 1961.

The position was, however, somewhat anomalous because the scheme had been designed on the trade waste strengths and volumes which existed prior to the removal of the fructose by the Laboratory. The capacities of the various units were therefore too large for the total sewage "load" which now had to be treated.

The investigation was completed and a subsequent meeting took place in London. Since it was now becoming imperative that more speedy progress should be made, the staffing of the department of the Engineer and Surveyor was reviewed. Attempts were made to engage an additional assistant without success, and as the present staffing situation did not allow of anyone being put on the scheme on a full time basis, Consulting Engineers were called in to prepare the revised scheme.

At the interview with the Ministry it was said that the Re-circulation Scheme was of good design but the altered circumstances now necessitated some review in the treatment works. As to the sewers, these were approved in principle and the Council was asked to re-submit these for separate approval and loan sanction.

A site investigation was undertaken and borings and tests proved that no great difficulty should be experienced in constructing the works.

Planning permission for the sewers and the extension of site for the sewage disposal works has been obtained.

The present sewage works has continued to be grossly overloaded and the Council's attendant has struggled hard against almost overwhelming odds to keep the plant in working order.

A break occurred in the cast iron rising main in London Road, Holmes Chapel. It was found that the cast iron is being corroded by the subsoil in which it is laid. Further trouble is likely to happen in the future and eventual replacement may be necessary.

Parish of Church Lawton

Red Bull—The scheme for sewerage the Red Bull district of the parish has been completed and forwarded to the Ministry for approval and loan sanction.

Lawton Gate—It was reported during the year that the small treatment works at Snapes Aqueduct were now too small for the satisfactory treatment of the sewage discharged from the Lawton Gate community—a group which had been expanded by the development of a building estate in Sandbach Road.

Alternative draft schemes were prepared and eventually it was decided to embark upon a joint scheme for the drainage of Lawton Gate and Rode Heath to one treatment works on the Snapes Aqueduct site.

Parish of Odd Rode

Rode Heath/Thurlwood—Since the last report on the Rode Heath sewerage scheme, a complete reversal has taken place in that the sewage will flow from Thurlwood generally in a southerly direction, part by gravitation and part by pumping to a new sewage disposal works situated on the present site at Snapes Aqueduct. It is the Council's policy to centralise the works wherever possible and so conserve man power, and the new works will be large enough to deal with the Rode Heath area and the present overloaded treatment works, taking the sewage from the western end of the parish of Church Lawton. The scheme has been prepared in the Surveyor's office and is now almost complete, ready to submit to the Ministry for approval.

Sludge Disposal

The sludge produced at the two major works in the district—at Holmes Chapel and Odd Rode—has been no great problem in the past because farmers and market gardeners have been willing to collect it at their own expense. The position at Odd Rode has, during the last two years changed somewhat, in that payments have had to be made for its removal. At Holmes Chapel the Council have been more fortunate because of the proximity of Cranage Hall Mental Hospital farm and gardens, where there has been a demand for the sludge. This may not always be the case.

There appears to be a growing reluctance on the part of farmers to use sludge on their land in its raw state, and Councils generally are likely to be faced with the problem of disposal at their own cost. This disposal might be to tips where they can be found, but it may eventually mean that the smaller Councils will have to take other more expensive means of disposal.

Parish of Brereton

Brereton Green—The sewerage scheme for the village is now complete, but the rate of development in the area has been consider-

ably in excess of that anticipated, with the result that the sewage installation is now working to full capacity. The layout, however, is such that all units could be duplicated when the need arises.

Brereton Heath—Development in this area is being limited by the lack of main drainage.

Public Conveniences

The Medical Officer of Health raised the question of providing washing facilities in the Public Conveniences at Holmes Chapel. It was decided to make an experiment with the installation of a liquid hand cleanser and paper towels in the ladies' section. At the time of writing this note, no adverse comment has been made.

Small Sewage Treatment Plants

There are 59 individual housing sites and 34 in Rural areas are sewered to septic tank installations.

The removal of sludge from these installations is by the Council's cesspool emptier at fairly regular intervals arranged according to a rota.

Other maintenance is required, such as the cleaning and oiling of the distributors, the mowing of grass, cutting of hedges, etc. This work is done by the Housing Repair Staff, but not as frequently as necessary, and there is no doubt that the time is approaching when the maintenance of these installations and the smaller works such as those at Malkins Bank and Brereton Green will need to be undertaken by a specially appointed mobile gang.

HOUSING

Council Houses

At the end of the year 1961, the Council had built 857 dwellings since 1944. This total, with the 176 erected prior to 1940, and adjustments for purchases and sales, gives their total ownership at 1040.

The following table sets out details and shows that the Council have built houses in every parish of their district, a commendable result for a small district with limited staff, when it is recalled that the smallest scheme involves the same detailed work in preparing the plans and specifications.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Pre-1940</i>	<i>Post 1944</i>	<i>Total</i>
Arclid	4	—	4
Betchton	12	68	80
Bradwall	—	8	8
Brereton	14	34	48
Church Hulme	17	254	271
Church Lawton	6	62	68
Cranage	15	12	27
Elton	—	2	2
Goostrey	12	78	90
Hassall	5	—	5
Hulme Walfield	4	6	10
Moreton	—	11	11
Newbold Astbury ...	10	25	35
Odd Rode	28	254	282
Smallwood	22	8	30
Somerford	6	4	10
Somerford Booths	6	14	20
Swettenham	12	4	16
Tetton	—	8	8
Twemlow	3	12	15
	<hr/> 176	<hr/> 864	<hr/> 1040

Most of the Council's houses have been built directly for them but at various times others have been bought. The eight semi-detached houses in Lawton Avenue were erected by a Builder to his own plans and specification. Three pairs of semi-detached houses and a pair of bungalows were bought at Saltersford Corner, Holmes Chapel, when the Home Office School was closed. Cotton Villa, Middlewich Road, Holmes Chapel, and the adjoining house are more recent purchases. The Villa was in need of extensive repairs and improvement and the other house, having been converted into two flats by the previous owner, was turned back into one house.

Substandard cottages have also received the attention of the Council, e.g. one pair near Malkins Bank in the parish of Hassall were bought several years ago and problem families have been housed in them. More recently 56 Cinderhill Lane, Odd Rode and Rosemary Cottage, Hassall, have been bought and reconditioned, with the aid of Improvement Grants. Mere Cottages in Church Lawton were bought but there is opposition to their re-conditioning by the Brine Subsidence Compensation Board because of their nearness to the subsiding area of Rode Heath.

Flatlets

One of the two blocks of flatlets under construction was completed and occupied towards the end of 1961. Reports show that they are fulfilling a need in the district by providing accommodation for elderly people who are reasonably fit but need occasional oversight by the Warden.

The flats are “all-electric” and although it is early to form an opinion as to the annual running costs, these, it would seem, will be reasonably close to the estimates.

Other building completed during the year included 17 bungalows on the following sites :

Goostrey	...	...	...	...	...	6
Holmes Chapel	...	...	...	...	...	11

The number of dwellings now built per 1000 head of population is 60-30.

Garages

Only seven additional garages have been built during the year, bringing the total to 116.

It is considered that more garages will be required, and surveys are being undertaken in order to ascertain what is the “garage capacity” of the various housing sites, i.e. plans are prepared indicating where garages can be built at individual houses and where blocks of garages can be built within reasonable reach of groups of houses.

The Council have retained the sites where plots are rented to tenants and on which they build their own temporary garages.

It may be that car parks will need to be provided on sites where transport drivers live — for they appear to travel home in their vehicles, leaving them on any vacant bit of land and on grass verges, to the annoyance of other residents.

Maintenance of the Council Houses

Reports of defects in Council houses are made by tenants on specially printed cards, and during 1961 a smaller number were received than in the previous year, viz. 1642 compared with 1877 in 1960.

Allowing for the five day week, holidays and Bank Holidays, there are about 246 working days per annum. It is clear then, that on average, seven complaints must be completed every day in order to cope with the number reported, but there are others about which no report is made, e.g. those which are found necessary before painting begins, and those which are noted on change of tenancy.

The maintenance staff now consists of :

Foreman (bricklayer)	1
Bricklayer	1
Joiner	1
Plumber	1
Labourers	2
Painters	6

This complement (excluding the painters) was built up at the beginning of 1960. Since that date the number of dwellings completed has been 72. The staff remain the same.

Painting of Council Houses

The number of houses painted by the Council's staff is very similar to that for 1960 at 118. It has never yet been possible to achieve the hoped for target of 200 houses per annum. This year the weather reduced the suitable working time considerably and in addition many days were spent in painting the new Council Offices externally and decorating internally.

Pointing of Council Houses

Some of the older houses built around 1924 in common bricks were in need of pointing. This work has been carried out by Contract.

Booth Bed Lane, Goostrey	6
Sandbach Road, Church Lawton...	6

Improvements to Older Houses

Under the Council's policy of improving their older houses, another batch of coal fired wash boilers was replaced by electric boilers.

A further improvement has been the installation of wash hand basins in 113 houses. There are still several sites to be completed but in these cases more extensive works are required, including new drainage installations, e.g. at Kermincham and Big Stone West.

Refrigerators

The Council now have on hire to tenants 164 refrigerators. This service has been appreciated, but problems have arisen where a tenant has asked to be permitted to give up the hire and the Council have been faced with finding a tenant who would take a "second hand" refrigerator at almost the same rent charged for refrigerators of more modern type.

Maintenance of Housing Estates

The attractive layout of an estate invariably incorporates grass verges and islands which have in previous years been maintained by the Housing Repair Staff. Since the grass cutting was secondary to the maintenance of the houses, it was neglected or forgotten, to the detriment of the appearance of the estates.

As was stated in last year's report, two temporary men were engaged specially for the purpose of grass cutting — they were placed under the supervision and control of the office gardener, who transported them from site to site. This change resulted in the more regular attention to this work and a better appearance of the housing schemes generally. By the Council setting this example, tenants themselves tend to take greater interest in the maintenance of estates.

Unfortunately, this salutary effect is not always reflected in the cultivation of gardens by tenants — there appear to be a few cases on every site where neglect produces weed ridden land about which the Council have had frequent discussions, but have so far failed to find a satisfactory solution to the problem of inducing or compelling the reluctant gardener to take an interest in his garden.

Private Development

Building Plans deposited with the Council for consideration under Building Byelaws and the Town & Country Planning Acts totalled 489 for the year, an increase of 3% on the 1960 total and an average of 40 per month.

The following table sets out the various headings under which plans are considered and the numbers dealt with under each heading.

In all cases of Byelaw approvals the builder is called upon to furnish the Council with not less than 24 hours' notice in writing of the date and time at which the building operation will commence and before the covering up of any drain, private sewer, concrete or other material laid over the site, foundation or damp proof course. Each plan, therefore, calls for at least five inspections, a minimum total of 1315 visits. This number is increased where a single plan is for more than one or two buildings, e.g. in estate development. Such development may also call for additional inspections under the Town and Country Planning Acts.

			<i>Byelaws only</i>	<i>Byelaws & Planning</i>	<i>Planning only</i>	<i>Outline Planning</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	...	...	3	15	12	7	37
February	...	...	5	13	34	2	54
March	...	...	3	17	8	11	39
April	...	...	4	3	10	16	33
May	...	...	8	11	6	8	33
June	...	...	6	19	8	4	37
July	...	...	8	23	5	14	50
August	...	...	10	15	7	9	41
September	...	...	7	16	9	4	36
October	...	...	12	22	11	7	52
November	...	...	12	12	14	9	47
December	...	...	6	13	5	6	30
			84	179	129	97	489

Litter Bins

Litter Bins were provided and fixed in the Parish of Goostrey.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Tuberculosis

Four cases were notified and the number of people on register at December 31st, 1961 is shown below :

			Up to								65 &	
			1 yr.	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	over	Total
Male	Pulmonary	... ..	—	—	1	—	4	4	4	2	2	17
Female	Pulmonary	...	—	—	1	4	3	5	4	—	—	17
Male	Non-Pulmonary	...	—	—	1	2	5	1	1	—	1	11
Female	Non-Pulmonary...		—	—	1	6	3	2	1	3	—	16

For comparative purposes, I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1961 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1952.

Notifications — 1952 to 1961

	1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960		1961	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5					1	1		1												
5-15						1		1		1										
15-25		1										1								
25-35	2				1						1									1
35-45																				
45-55									1		2									
55-65			1						1		1						1			
65 and over		1																		
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5		1			1															
5-15	1	1										1								1
15-25				2			2		2							1				
25-35		1	1				1	1												
35-45			1								1									1
45-55														1					1	
55-65							1													
65 and over																				
TOTAL	4	4	3	2	3	2	4	3	4	1	6	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	2

Deaths — 1952 to 1961

	1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960		1961	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5					1															
5-15																				
15-25																				
25-35																				
35-45																				
45-55					1					1				2			1			
55-65			1					1												
65 and over	1								1											
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5																				
5-15			1																	
15-25																				
25-35							1													
35-45							1													
45-55																				
55-65																				
65 and over															1					
TOTAL	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1961

DISEASE	AGE DISTRIBUTION													Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 & over			
Dysentery	...	1	1	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	—	2	—	10	1
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	5	1
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
Measles	...	1	16	20	40	18	102	6	1	1	—	—	—	205	—
Meningococcal Inf.	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	6	—
Scarlet Fever	...	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Whoop. Cough	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

The following sections of this report cover the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department and have been compiled by Mr. P. Kirkham, the Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Staff

The full establishment of five driver/loaders, nine loaders and one spare driver/loader has been maintained with four changes in personnel during the year. The Bonus Scheme was introduced as mentioned in last year's report, with effect from January 1st, 1961. This coincided with the introduction of a five-day forty-two hour week. As far as refuse collection and disposal is concerned, a target figure was introduced for each of the four collection vehicles having regard for each particular district concerned. A detailed survey and census of bins was made and certain adjustments found necessary. Each vehicle carries a driver/loader and two loaders. Should only one loader be on the vehicle the target is reduced accordingly — the following tables illustrate :

Driver and two Loaders

<i>District</i>	<i>2 Loaders Target</i>	<i>Units Collected 1/1/61</i>	<i>Bonus 1/1/61</i>	<i>Units Collected 31/12/61</i>	<i>Bonus 31/12/61</i>
1	998	1002	4	1027	29
2	1042	1043	1	1102	60
3	950	962	12	971	21
4	998	988	-	1024	26
Totals	3988	3995	17	4124	136

The following details are given of the work carried out :

Septic Tank Service

Figures for 1960 shown in parenthesis.

<i>Type of Tank</i>	<i>No. of Loads</i>	<i>No. of Hours</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>	<i>No. of diff. tanks</i>
Non-Domestic	532(404)	377 (337½)	110 (98)	54 (41)
Council Houses	133(125)	178½(186)	70 (63)	39 (37)
Domestic	152(116)	204¼(177)	112 (99)	108 (98)
Outside Area	14 (7)	26¼ (13)	12 (7)	11 (7)
Sewage Installations ...	51 (35)	59¾ (35½)	21 (14)	7 (4)
Flushing and Cleaning Sewers, etc.	(48)	(49½)	(24)	(3)
TOTAL	882(735)	845¾(798½)	325(305)	219(190)

Refuse Disposal

The Council purchased a Fordson Diesel tractor towards the end of the year equipped with Ski-Hi loading bucket and scraper blade, and rear grader. Disposal of refuse is by tipping at four points, the principal one being in a birch wood adjoining the Council's Depot. It is hoped by use of the tractor to secure adequate covering of tipped refuse, using refuse which has been tipped several years as a covering material. Regular treatment with insecticide is carried out and frequent attention given to rodent control.

Trade Refuse

(a) Loads

It was resolved that in future, only the Council's vehicles should be allowed to tip on sites in their ownership. Any trade refuse so tipped by the Council would be charged at actual cost.

(b) Bins

It was agreed to collect trade refuse in bins on request at 9d per bin with a minimum of 3/- per visit.

Vehicles and Maintenance

No change has occurred in the establishment of vehicles. The following details are given of mileage and petrol during the year :

Number	Make	Duty	Mileage	Petrol	m.p.g.
PMB 602	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	6220	1215	5.1
PMB 603	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	6204	1015	6.1
WMA 363	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	8220	1339	6.1
743 NFM	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	5588	957	5.08
PMB 604	Karrier Cesspool Emptyer	Septic Tanks and Nightsoil	8799	2141	4.1
PMB 601	Karrier Gamecock (Spare Vehicle)	Septic Tanks and Nightsoil. Refuse Collector	2217	354	6.2
			37248	7021	5.3

A renewals fund is to be set up based on an estimated ten year life of the Karrier Gamecock side loader, extended in each case by a further five years by renewal of the body only. Such a body was fitted this year, our own staff removing the old one. The cesspool emptier and tractor will be given a minimum ten year life.

Salvage

Baling of waste paper salvage is now carried out on a bonus scheme according to the number of bales made. Time spent on actual collection of salvage solely is allocated to this item and the following details are given of the work over the year.

Receipts	Weights			Revenue		
	tons	cwts	qtrs	£	s	d
Container Waste	11	16	1	117	14	0
Mixed Baled Paper	16	16	0	123	13	4
Newspapers and Magazines	20	4	0	121	4	0
	48	16	1	362	11	4

Expenditure

	£	s	d
Materials	30	0	0
Labour	241	0	0
	271	0	0

Although the profit is exceedingly small in respect of the amount of salvage baled, it does provide a most satisfactory means of disposal of this commodity. Nevertheless, further falls in price will cause the Council to consider most carefully the continuance of this work.

Food and Food Premises

Routine inspections continue and are concentrated mainly on the hotel and catering premises. No legal proceedings were authorised, but the following items have been brought to the notice of owners of food premises in the area :

- Reg. 8 Placing of food involving risk of contamination (1)
- Reg. 19(1)(b) Hot water to sink (1)
- Reg. 19(c) Defective sink (1)
- Reg. 23(1)(a) Walls and ceiling not in such a condition as to
 enable them to be effectively cleaned... ... (3)

Two applications for sale of ice cream were received from garage premises. One was in respect of a mobile store to be operated on a self-service basis by a petrol pump attendant. This was, in fact, felt to be unsatisfactory and the applicant agreed to apportion part of the car sale room specifically for ice cream sale purposes. The ownership has subsequently changed hands and the sale has not been proceeded with. The second was in respect of a portion of a car show room set out for the sale of ice cream. The premises were accordingly registered and the applicant advised of the necessity for scrupulous care at all times in preventing contamination, and in particular from soiled hands.

The following are the particulars of the food premises in the area :

Grocers and General	... ..	40
Public Houses and Licensed Clubs	...	36
Cafes and Restaurants...	... ..	24
Village Halls, etc.	... ..	11
School Canteens	... ..	17
Factory Canteens	... ..	6
Bakehouses	... ..	3
Sweets and Confectionery	... ..	5
Butchers	... ..	9
Chemists	... ..	2
Fish and Chips	... ..	3
Canning Factory	... ..	1
Dairy	... ..	2
		<hr/>
		159

(Note : Where a cafe or restaurant is attached to a public house or grocers, etc., it is shown under both heads.)

44 premises are registered under Section 16(1)(a) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. There are ten other premises registered under Section 16(1)(b)—3 fish and chips, 7 sausage and meat pies. One food canning factory is in the area.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

Only one slaughterhouse remains and kills for use only at the small shop attached. The following are details of the work carried out :

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	41	6	—	132	24	—
Number inspected	41	6	—	132	24	—
<i>All diseases exept Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.2%	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Although the number of beasts killed and inspected is only small, I think it worthy of note that no evidence of tuberculosis was found throughout the year — the first occasion most probably that this has occurred.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Five licences were issued to people residing in the area.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

A Start has been made of a survey of the farms in the area — 55 having been seen during the year and 5 letters sent requiring works to remedy unsatisfactory conditions.

The following table gives information as to the number of registered factories and inspections made :

	No. on register	No. of inspections	No. of written notices
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	54	37	6
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	1	1	1
TOTAL	57	39	7

Cases in which defects were found

Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)

	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Unsuitable or defective	6	4	5

Outworkers

Wearing Apparel (Making, etc.) 2

SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Summary of Visits

Animals, keeping of	3
Conversions	47
Clean Air Act, 1956	4
Closet Pails	9

Drainage — including septic tanks, etc.	143
Dustbins	22
Factory — with Mechanical Power	37
Factory Outworkers — with Mechanical Power	1
Food Premises — General	27
Food Premises — Bakehouses	1
Food Premises — Butchers	8
Food Premises — Cafe and Canteens	35
Food Premises — Dairy, etc.	1
Food Premises — Fish and Chips	1
Food Premises — Ice Cream	9
Food Premises — Hotels an Public Houses	36
Food Premises — Slaughterhouses	47
Food Premises — Unsound Food	6
Farms, San. Conveniences for Outworkers	55
Housing — General	234
Housing — Council House Applications	22
Housing — Housing Act, 1949 (Grants)	253
Infectious Disease — Food Poisoning	1
Infectious Disease — Disinfection	3
Insect Pests	15
Nuisance — General	40
Nuisance — Housing	16
Petroleum	26
Rodent Control	48
Scavenging — General	42
Scavenging — Tips	24
Scavenging — Teams at Work	24
Scavenging — Garages	186
Slaughterman's Licences	1
Smoke Observations	2
Tents, Vans and Sheds	41
Water Supply	60
Miscellaneous — Interviews, etc.	50
<hr/>	
TOTAL	1585
<hr/>	

Number of Complaints received	129
Number of Informal Notices served	82
Number of Informal Notices complied with	78
Number of Statutory Notices served	17
Number of Statutory Notices complied with by owner	5
Number of Statutory Notices complied with by Local Authority in default of owner	1

Conversions

With the completion of the extension to the Brereton sewer, Notices were served in respect of 11 properties requiring conversion of the closets. This work should be completed in 1962. All the closets have now been converted in Goostrey. A grant was paid for a voluntary conversion of pail closets at a church.

Caravan sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

In the issue of licences under the above Act, the Council have based their Conditions upon the Model Standard as issued by the Ministry. 12 licences were issued during the year under the above act, covering 180 caravans on 12 sites.

Action can be taken in appropriate cases for contravention of Section 1 of the Act, but in most cases a Planning application is made immediately the contravention becomes known and proceedings are suspended. Refusal of a Planning application gives rise to a right of appeal, and by the time a public enquiry is held and the decision published, caravans may have been on an unlicensed site for nearly twelve months. This is not considered satisfactory, but there seems no alternative in these circumstances.

Water Supply

Notice was served on the owner of one property requiring the provision of mains water under Section 138(1) of the Public Health Act, 1936. The work was carried out by the Council in default and the owner required to pay £40

The following details are given of samples of water taken during the year :

Unsatisfactory samples	...	...	...	...	5
Satisfactory samples	...	...	...	...	20

In the case of unsatisfactory samples, in one instance sterilising filter candles required cleansing. In a second case, a storage reservoir required cleansing. In the remainder of the cases, subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

Clean Air Act, 1956

One complaint was received of smoke nuisance from a small heating stove. The matter was investigated and found to be caused principally at lighting up times. Following representations to the owner no further complaints have been received.

Rodent Control

Contracts have been carried out at 85 farms and industrial premises during the year.

The following details are given of the work carried out :

	<i>Number Treated</i>	<i>Number of visits</i>
Private Houses	72	257
Refuse Tips and Sewerage Works	20	702
Industrial and Trade Premises ...	35	299
Farms	67	968
	<hr/> 194	<hr/> 2226

In addition, 27 private houses and 14 farms were surveyed during the year. Sewers again proved negative after test baiting.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928

50 premises are licensed for the storage of petroleum. Compliance with the Council's Conditions of Licence and Principles of Construction is enforced and co-operation of the licensees is good.

Housing

At the commencement of 1961, 62 houses were known to be unfit for habitation and suitable for action under Section 16/17 of the Housing Act. Of these, approximately 30 were thought to be occupied by families requiring re-housing by the Council. A further 9 houses have been found unfit during the year. The following indicates the action taken during the year under Section 16/17 :

Families Re-housed	9
Demolition Orders made	2
Houses Demolished	6
Closing Orders made	6
Undertakings given	6
Houses to be Demolished by Agreement	3

Houses made fit and

(1) Closing Orders determined ...	5
(2) Undertakings cancelled	3

At the end of 1961, it was estimated that 47 houses were awaiting action and from which 25 families would require re-housing.

17 bungalows and 13 flatlets were completed by the Council in 1961.

Improvement Grants

Applications continue at a steady rate and the following indicates the work carried out in 1961.

Discretionary Grants

Applications received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Applications approved (owner/occupiers)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Applications approved (others)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Total Grant approved	...	...	...	...	...	£5902	0 0	
Total Grants approved since inception of the scheme, approximately	...	...	...	...	...	£50000	0 0	

Properties affected :

Owner/Occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
								<hr/> 197

Standard Grants

Applications received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Applications approved (owner/occupiers)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Applications approved (others)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Grants paid in respect of five houses	...	...	...	...	...	£512	0 0	
Total Grants since inception (covering 20 houses)	...	...	...	...	...	£1245	0 0	

Certificates of Dis-repair

Only one Certificate of Dis-repair was applied for and was issued in respect of some of the defects. No applications for cancellation were received and five certificates were in force at the end of the year.

EACHUS & SON
Printers & Stationers
SANDBACH : CHESHIRE